



Through the University of Miami, several students were able to spend a portion of their summer vacation studying of the renowned city of Barcelona. While there we learned about the history of Barcelona, the European Union, the political battle of Catalonia, and even traveled to several other exciting cities. Each student was able to expose themselves to a diverse and exciting new culture that provided them with friends and memories that will last them a lifetime – all while earning credits towards their undergraduate degree.

My name is Sydney Harley and I am an International Studies and Spanish double major. I went on this trip the summer between my 1st and 2nd year at the University of Miami and it was everything I hoped it would be. I loved the exposure I received to the Catalan language. By the time the trip was over I found myself able to understand certain words that I would read in menus, street signs, and even on public transportation. Each city that we visited had its own unique style and heritage that made them all extremely different from one another. The best part of all of this was the fact that I was able to spend it when a group of incredible students, all of whom were experiencing these sites for the first time as well. It was a trip that I will never forget. However, it is not just my opinion that matters. Several other students also gave some feedback as to what they thought to be their most exciting and memorable experiences on the trip:

“The sponsored events and being able to meet the owners or people who know very well what we visited.”

“Making so many new friends.”

“The people.”

“Partnership with University of Barcelona and Gaudi Research Institute”

“The trips outside of Barcelona (Tarragona, Girona and Sitges), the people met, connections made (former Mayor of Barcelona Jordi Hereu, etc.), and the trips made with other students when there was time.”

“Discovering the Catalan way of life, and the Art Museum.”

“The course was a good class. Very intelligent guest speakers and useful information. Learned a lot.”

“The course exceeded my expectations”

“Being able to share all this time and experiences with other UM students.”

“There were many memorable experiences one would be hard to pinpoint. Being able to get so many experiences from our generous sponsor was amazing.”

“Just the friendships I made.”

“Colonia Guell and Gaudi Research Institute opening.”

“Getting an idea of Barcelona, in a very short time, exploring its different aspects, not just as a tourist.”

“Hiking through the Camino de Ronda in Calella, Costa Brava. The views were unlike anything I had seen.”